

Application Serial No.: 09/676,998
Attorney Docket No.: 0190230

REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is in response to the *Advisory* Office Action of May 5, 2005, where the Examiner has rejected claims 7, 8, 17 and 18, and has allowed claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 11 and 13-16. By the present amendment, claims 7-8 and 17-18 have been cancelled. After the present amendment, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 11 and 13-16 are pending in the present application. An early Notice of Allowance for outstanding claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 11 and 13-16 in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

A. Rejection of Claims 7-8 under 35 USC §103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 7-8, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Yukawa, et al. (USPN 6,256,066) ("Yukawa").

Applicant respectfully disagrees; however, in order to expedite the prosecution of the present application, applicant has cancelled claims 7-8. Accordingly applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's rejection of claims 7-8 has been rendered moot.

B. Rejection of Claims 17-18 under 35 USC §103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 17-18, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Yukawa in view of Bawolek, et al. (US 2004/0012029) ("Bawolek").

Applicant respectfully disagrees; however, in order to expedite the prosecution of the present application, applicant has cancelled claims 17-18. Accordingly applicant

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respectfully submits that the Examiner's rejection of claims 17-18 has been rendered moot.

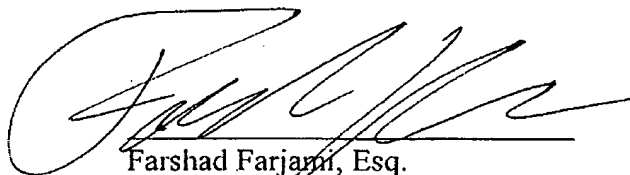
C. Conclusion

Based on the foregoing reasons, an early Notice of Allowance directed to all claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 11 and 13-16 pending in the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,
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Date:

5/10/05


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